

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

Nicole Martinez,

Plaintiff,

v.

Commissioner of Social Security  
Administration,

Defendant.

No. CV 23-474-TUC-JAS (MAA)

**ORDER**

**DISCUSSION**

Pending before the Court is a Report and Recommendation issued by United States Magistrate Judge Ambri. The Report and Recommendation recommends remanding this case for further proceedings. The Court has reviewed the entire record in this case (*see* Docs. 1 to 22) and the relevant legal authority bearing on this case. Defendant filed objections to the Report and Recommendation.<sup>1</sup>

As a threshold matter, as to any new evidence, arguments, and issues that were not timely and properly raised before United States Magistrate Ambri, the Court exercises its discretion to not consider those matters and considers them waived.<sup>2</sup> *United States v.*

<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise noted by the Court, internal quotes and citations have been omitted when citing authority throughout this Order.

<sup>2</sup> As a general matter, the Court notes that it has had numerous problems with parties in many cases attempting to raise new issues that could have been raised before the United States Magistrate Judge. The Court does not abide such actions, and allowing such actions undermines the Court's ability to properly manage the hundreds of cases pending before the Court. *See United States v. Ramos*, 65 F.4<sup>th</sup> 427, 435 n. 5 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2023) ("Ramos's motion for reconsideration argued that the district court failed to conduct de novo review because the order adopting the report and recommendation stated that 'as to any new ...

1 *Howell*, 231 F.3d 615, 621-623 (9th Cir. 2000) (“[A] district court has discretion, but is not  
 2 required, to consider evidence presented for the first time in a party's objection to a  
 3 magistrate judge's recommendation . . . [I]n making a decision on whether to consider  
 4 newly offered evidence, the district court must . . . exercise its discretion . . . [I]n providing  
 5 for a *de novo* determination rather than *de novo* hearing, Congress intended to permit  
 6 whatever reliance a district judge, in the exercise of sound judicial discretion, chose to  
 7 place on a magistrate judge's proposed findings and recommendations . . . The magistrate  
 8 judge system was designed to alleviate the workload of district courts . . . To require a  
 9 district court to consider evidence not previously presented to the magistrate judge would  
 10 effectively nullify the magistrate judge's consideration of the matter and would not help to  
 11 relieve the workload of the district court. Systemic efficiencies would be frustrated and the  
 12 magistrate judge's role reduced to that of a mere dress rehearsal if a party were allowed to  
 13 feint and weave at the initial hearing, and save its knockout punch for the second round . .  
 14 . Equally important, requiring the district court to hear evidence not previously presented  
 15 to the magistrate judge might encourage sandbagging. [I]t would be fundamentally unfair  
 16 to permit a litigant to set its case in motion before the magistrate, wait to see which way  
 17 the wind was blowing, and—having received an unfavorable recommendation—shift gears  
 18 before the district judge.”); *United States v. Reyna-Tapia*, 328 F.3d 1114, 1122 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir.  
 19 2003) (“Finally, it merits re-emphasis that the underlying purpose of the Federal  
 20 Magistrates Act is to improve the effective administration of justice.”).

21 Assuming that there has been no waiver, the Court has conducted a *de novo* review  
 22 as to Defendant's objections. See 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(C) (“Within fourteen days after  
 23 being served with [the Report and Recommendation], any party may serve and file written  
 24 objections to such proposed findings and recommendations as provided by rules of court.

25 \_\_\_\_\_  
 26 arguments ... not timely ... raised before [the magistrate judge], the Court exercises its  
 27 discretion to not consider those matters and considers them waived” even though,  
 28 according to Ramos, the case raised no waiver issue. But this argument misses the point.  
 The fact that the order contained extraneous language does not negate the district court's  
 multiple assertions that it conducted *de novo* review and the magistrate judge's proper  
 analysis in recommending denial of the motion to suppress.”).

1 A judge of the court shall make a *de novo* determination of those portions of the report or  
2 specified proposed findings or recommendations to which objection is made. A judge of  
3 the court may accept, reject, or modify, in whole or in part, the findings or  
4 recommendations made by the magistrate judge. The judge may also receive further  
5 evidence or recommit the matter to the magistrate judge with instructions.”).

6 As referenced above, in addition to reviewing the Report and Recommendation and  
7 any objections and responsive briefing thereto, the Court’s *de novo* review of the record  
8 includes review of the record and authority before United States Magistrate Judge Ambri  
9 which led to the Report and Recommendation in this case.

10 Upon *de novo* review of the record and authority herein, the Court finds Defendant’s  
11 objections to be without merit, rejects those objections, and adopts United States  
12 Magistrate Judge Ambri’s Report and Recommendation. *See, e.g., United States v.*  
13 *Rodriguez*, 888 F.2d 519, 522 (7<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1989) (“Rodriguez is entitled by statute to *de novo*  
14 review of the subject. Under *Raddatz* [447 U.S. 667 (1980)] the court may provide this on  
15 the record compiled by the magistrate. Rodriguez treats adoption of the magistrate's report  
16 as a sign that he has not received his due. Yet we see no reason to infer abdication from  
17 adoption. On occasion this court affirms a judgment on the basis of the district court's  
18 opinion. Affirming by adoption does not imply that we have neglected our duties; it means,  
19 rather, that after independent review we came to the same conclusions as the district judge  
20 for the reasons that judge gave, rendering further explanation otiose. When the district  
21 judge, after reviewing the record in the light of the objections to the report, reaches the  
22 magistrate's conclusions for the magistrate's reasons, it makes sense to adopt the report,  
23 sparing everyone another round of paper.”); *Bratcher v. Bray-Doyle Independent School*  
24 *Dist. No. 42 of Stephens County, Okl.*, 8 F.3d 722, 724 (10<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1993) (“*De novo* review  
25 is statutorily and constitutionally required when written objections to a magistrate's report  
26 are timely filed with the district court . . . The district court's duty in this regard is satisfied  
27 only by considering the actual testimony [or other relevant evidence in the record], and not  
28 by merely reviewing the magistrate's report and recommendations . . . On the other hand,

1 we presume the district court knew of these requirements, so the express references to *de*  
2 *novo* review in its order must be taken to mean it properly considered the pertinent portions  
3 of the record, absent some clear indication otherwise . . . Plaintiff contends . . . the district  
4 court's [terse] order indicates the exercise of less than *de novo* review . . . [However,]  
5 brevity does not warrant look[ing] behind a district court's express statement that it engaged  
6 in a *de novo* review of the record.”); *Murphy v. International Business Machines Corp.*, 23  
7 F.3d 719, 722 (2nd Cir. 1994) (“We . . . reject Murphy's procedural challenges to the  
8 granting of summary judgment . . . Murphy's contention that the district judge did not  
9 properly consider her objections to the magistrate judge's report . . . lacks merit. The judge's  
10 brief order mentioned that objections had been made and overruled. We do not construe  
11 the brevity of the order as an indication that the objections were not given due  
12 consideration, especially in light of the correctness of that report and the evident lack of  
13 merit in Murphy's objections.”); *Gonzales-Perez v. Harper*, 241 F.3d 633 (8th Cir. 2001)  
14 (“When a party timely objects to a magistrate judge's report and recommendation, the  
15 district court is required to make a *de novo* review of the record related to the objections,  
16 which requires more than merely reviewing the report and recommendation . . . This court  
17 presumes that the district court properly performs its review and will affirm the district  
18 court's approval of the magistrate's recommendation absent evidence to the contrary . . .  
19 The burden is on the challenger to make a *prima facie* case that *de novo* review was not  
20 had.”); *Brunig v. Clark*, 560 F.3d 292, 295 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2009) (“Brunig also claims that the  
21 district court judge did not review the magistrate's report *de novo* . . . There is no evidence  
22 that the district court did not conduct a *de novo* review. Without any evidence to the  
23 contrary . . . we will not assume that the district court did not conduct the proper review.”);  
24 *United States v. Ramos*, 65 F.4<sup>th</sup> 427, 433 (9th Cir. 2023) (“Under this statutory scheme [of  
25 the Federal Magistrates Act], the district court did what § 636(b) requires: it indicated that  
26 it reviewed the record *de novo*, found no merit to Ramos's objections, and summarily  
27 adopted the magistrate judge's analysis in his report and recommendation. We have  
28 presumed that district courts conduct proper *de novo* review where they state they have

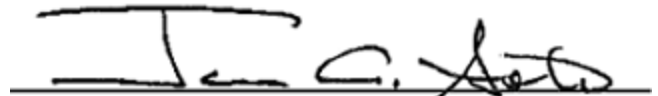
done so, even if the order fails to specifically address a party's objections.”).<sup>3</sup>

## **CONCLUSION**

Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

- (1) United States Magistrate Judge Ambri’s Report and Recommendation (Doc. 20) is accepted and adopted.
- (2) Defendant’s objections are rejected.
- (3) The final decision of the ALJ is reversed and this case is remanded for further proceedings.
- (4) The Clerk of the Court shall enter judgment and close the file in this case.

Dated this 28th day of January, 2025.



Honorable James A. Soto  
United States District Judge

<sup>3</sup> See also *Pinkston v. Madry*, 440 F.3d 879, 893-894 (7th Cir. 2006) (the district court's assurance, in a written order, that the court has complied with the *de novo* review requirements of the statute in reviewing the magistrate judge's proposed findings and recommendation is sufficient, in all but the most extraordinary of cases, to resist assault on appeal; emphasizing that “[i]t is clear that Pinkston's argument in this regard is nothing more than a collateral attack on the magistrate's reasoning, masquerading as an assault on the district court's entirely acceptable decision to adopt the magistrate's opinion . . .”); *Garcia v. City of Albuquerque*, 232 F.3d 760 (10th Cir. 2000) (“The district court's order is terse . . . However, neither 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1) nor Fed.R.Civ.P. 72(b) requires the district court to make any specific findings; the district court must merely conduct a *de novo* review of the record . . . It is common practice among district judges . . . to [issue a terse order stating that it conducted a *de novo* review as to objections] . . . and adopt the magistrate judges' recommended dispositions when they find that magistrate judges have dealt with the issues fully and accurately and that they could add little of value to that analysis. We cannot interpret the district court's [terse] statement as establishing that it failed to perform the required *de novo* review . . . We hold that although the district court's decision is terse, this is insufficient to demonstrate that the court failed to review the magistrate's recommendation *de novo*.”); *Goffman v. Gross*, 59 F.3d 668, 671 (7<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995) (“The district court is required to conduct a *de novo* determination of those portions of the magistrate judge's report and recommendations to which objections have been filed. But this *de novo* determination is not the same as a *de novo* hearing . . . [I]f following a review of the record the district court is satisfied with the magistrate judge's findings and recommendations it may in its discretion treat those findings and recommendations as its own.”).